

## REMARKS

Claim 16 has been canceled and replaced by new claim 32. Support may be found in the claims as originally filed and in the paragraph bridging pages 4 and 5. As amended, R is a C<sub>1-17</sub> alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, or aromatic group, with the proviso that such group cannot be derived from p-phenylene diisocyanate, or R is derived from a diisocyanate trimer and R<sup>1</sup> is a C<sub>1-5</sub> alkyl group.

The dependency of claims 17-21, 26, 28, 29 and 31 have been amended to reflect dependency on new claim 32.

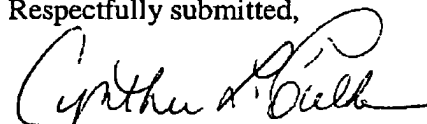
Claim 23 has been amended to recite that potassium enolate is generated using ethanolic potassium hydroxide as base. Support may be found in the paragraph bridging pages 19 and 20.

The dependency of claim 25 has been amended to reflect dependency on claim 23. No new matter has been added. Entry is requested.

It is believed that the foregoing amendment overcomes the Section 112, second paragraph, rejection of claims 17-21, 25, 26 and 28-31, the Section 112, first paragraph, rejections of claims 16-21, 26 and 28-31, and the Section 112, first paragraph, rejection of claims 23 and 26. Withdrawal is requested.

Early and favorable action is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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